



# Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs

Building partnerships to enhance intergovernmental relations, social and economic prosperity for the 22 Indian Tribes/Nations of Arizona

NOV 2008

ACIA's MONTHLY COMMUNICATION BETWEEN STATE GOVERNMENT AND ARIZONA INDIAN COUNTRY

## ARIZONA COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS MOVING TO NEW OFFICES!

ACIA is moving! We'll be moving into our new offices at 3030 N. Central, Suite 1407 very soon! Our new offices are located in the Bank of America Mid-Town Tower, which is on Central Avenue, between Thomas and Earll drive.

According to Ken Poocha, AICA Executive Director, "Our new office will enhance both the image and resources that the ACIA can provide. The space and building we were previously in were dated and the information technology was at times difficult to work with. The new ACIA offices provide us the necessary resources and space to more effectively meet the needs of the tribes and urban Indian communities we work with." This new location is centrally located near while still being just minutes from the Capitol.

We will be moving in sometime in mid-November. In addition, our main phone and fax number will also be changing, Please check our website for the most current information at [www.azcia.gov](http://www.azcia.gov) !

## ARIZONA TRIBES AMONG THOSE WHO RECEIVED RECOGNITION FROM HARVARD'S HONORING NATIONS PROGRAM IN OCTOBER

Phoenix, AZ - Ten tribal governments were honored on October 21st by Harvard's Honoring Contributions in the Governance of American Indian Nations (Honoring Nations) awards program. Five programs each received a \$20,000 award and five others each received a \$10,000 award in recognition of their good governance achievements. Hundreds of guests attended the event held in conjunction with the 65th Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians in Phoenix, Arizona.

The five "High Honors" and five "Honors" recipients were selected from a pool of 110 applications representing more than 60 tribes. At each stage of the selection process applications are judged on the criteria of effectiveness, significance to sovereignty, cultural relevance, transferability, and sustainability. In addition to the awards, the Harvard Project prepares reports, case studies, and instructional materials based on the honorees' successes.

Based at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, Honoring Nations is administered by the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development. For more information about Honoring Nations, visit the Harvard Project's web site at <http://www.ksg.harvard.edu/hpaied/> or call 617-495-1480.

The Honored Nations and Programs are as follows, (Arizona Tribes are in bold and italics): *Archie Hendricks, Sr. Skilled Nursing Facility and Tohono O'odham Hospice, Tohono O'odham Nation; Chickasaw Press, Chickasaw Nation; Community Council Task Force, Ak-Chin Indian Community; Intercultural Leadership Initiative, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians; Muscogee Creek Nation Reintegration Program, Muscogee Creek Nation; Osage Nation Governmental Reform Initiative, Osage Nation; Pine Hill Health Center, Navajo Nation, Ramah Chapter; Project Falvm-michi, Choctaw Nation; Tsigo bugeh Village, Ohkay Owengeh; and Ziiibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.*

ACIA is:

**Kenneth Poocha,**  
*Executive Director*

**Traci L. Morris,**  
*Program Specialist*

**Lorie Wells,**  
*Administrative Assistant*

## ACIA's New INFO:

### NEW ADDRESS:

3030 N. Central, Ste. 1407

Phoenix, AZ 85012

### PHONE:

602-542-3123

## ACIA Board Members:

*Sherry Counts*  
*Hualapai Nation*

*Margaret Baha Walker*  
*White Mountain Apache Tribe*

*Lucinda Hughes-Juan*  
*ACIA Board Chair-*  
*Tohono O'odham Nation*

*Cedric Kuwaninvaya*  
*ACIA Board Vice Chair-*  
*Hopi Tribe*

*GinaMarie Scarpa*  
*Member at Large*

*Elizabeth McNamee*  
*Member at Large*

*Paul Nosie Jr.*  
*San Carlos Apache Tribe*

*Cora Maxx-Phillips*  
*Navajo Nation*

*Taylor Satala*  
*Yavapai-Apache Nation*



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## Spotlight on Tribal Liaisons: Dawn Melvin

Dawn Ann Melvin works with the Arizona Office of Tourism (AOT) as the Native American Tourism Development Manager. In her role Dawn provides outreach to Tribes and offers them the agency's expertise and resources. As the agency raises awareness of these opportunities and expands outreach to the Tribes, it gains a better understanding of the Tribal communities' tourism development goals. The Arizona Office of Tourism created the position to guide its efforts to assist Arizona's Native American communities in developing and promoting their tourism offerings. Dawn is also responsible for oversight of AOT's Native American Tourism Advisory Committee and serves as a liaison to its members.

For five years Dawn previously worked at the Arizona State University on the West Campus, where she served as Senior Coordinator for Student Development and Native American Student Services Programs. Dawn received a Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation and Tourism Management and a post graduate certificate in Gerontology from Arizona State University in 1999. She has been married to Eric Sexton for 23 years.

Contact Dawn At: Native American Tourism Development Manager, Arizona Office of Tourism, 1110 W. Washington, Suite 155, Phoenix, AZ 85007 Phone 602-364-3707 Fax 602-364-370 [dmelvin@azot.gov](mailto:dmelvin@azot.gov)

### REMINDER! SAVE THE DATE!



## 14th Indian Nations & Tribes Legislative Day

JANUARY 20, 2009 (Inauguration Day)

### SPECIAL!!!

*2007-2008 Arizona Tribal/Urban Indian*

*Community Resource Directory*

*at the reduced rate of \$10 (previously \$15)*

Contact Lorie Wells at: [Lorie.wells@azcia.gov](mailto:Lorie.wells@azcia.gov) Or 602-542-3123

To add your event to the Newsletter Calendar or the ACIA website calendar please contact:

Traci L. Morris

at:

[www.azcia.gov](http://www.azcia.gov) or [traci.morris@azcia.gov](mailto:traci.morris@azcia.gov)

or call

602-542-3123

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Native American Cultural Celebration* on Nov. 7, 8, & 9, 2008. The event will be held at Pima Community College West Campus., Tucson, AZ. All proceeds will help the PCC Native American Student Association. Please contact Dorian Dalton: 520-304-6053/ 520-206-6792

*ASU West Campus Veteran's Day Weekend Traditional Pow-Wow* on November 8th. Hosted by ASU West Campus. [westevents@asu.edu](mailto:westevents@asu.edu) or 602-543-5306.

*4th Annual Native American Women's Conference* on November 18th-19th. "Surviving and persevering in this difficult time - Native Women's Role" Please Contact: Hamidah Awang-Damit at 928.526.6755 or email [Hamidah848@aol.com](mailto:Hamidah848@aol.com)

*2008 Strengthening Indian Youth Conference* on November 20th-21st. Hosted by the University of Arizona, Tucson. Contact: [www.aieacorp.org](http://www.aieacorp.org)

*32nd Annual Pueblo Grande Museum Art Market* on December 13 & 14, 2008. Contact: [www.pgindianmarket.com](http://www.pgindianmarket.com)



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## QUICK FACTS: American Indian Tribal Representation at Arizona State University

Fall 2008 = 1,453  
 Fall 2007 = 1,370

Top four colleges/schools of the American Indian student population:

1. Liberal Arts & Sciences (399)
2. Education (131)
3. University College (125)
4. Engineering (112).

Total ASU Enrollment: 64,394 = 2007 67,082 =2008

*Note: there may be more American Indian/Alaskan Native students not accounted for due to provisions that students are not required to mark their ethnicity/tribal affiliation(s) when they enroll. Ex. Fall 2006, 318 students identified as American Indian/Alaskan Native, but did not mark tribal affiliation(s).*

### American Indian Undergraduate Students

Top 4 Colleges/Schools:

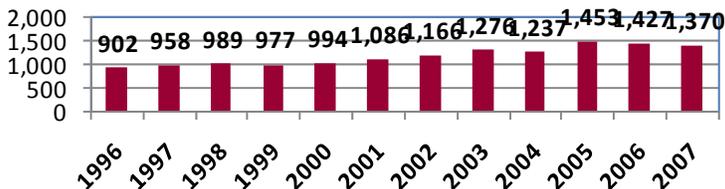
1. Liberal Arts & Sciences (366)  
 Male (148) Female (218)
2. Education (74)  
 Male (16) Female (58)
3. University College (125)  
 Male (52) Female (73)
4. Engineering (99)  
 Male (65) Female (34)

### American Indian Graduate Students

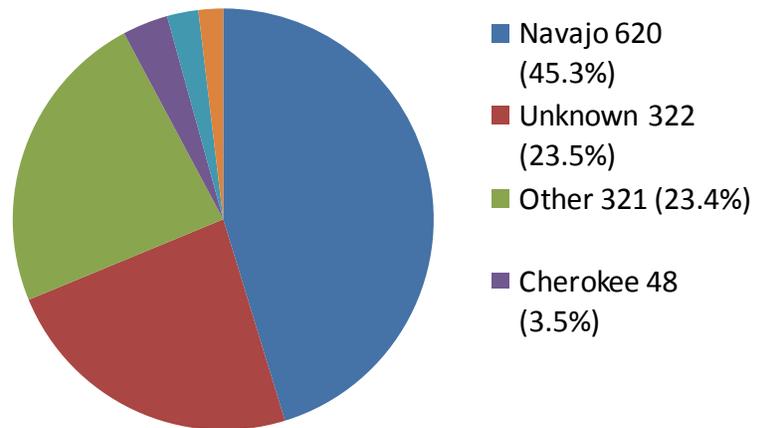
Top 4 Colleges/Schools:

1. Education (57)  
 Male (14) Female (43)
2. Law (37)  
 Male (19) Female (18)
3. Liberal Arts & Sciences (33)  
 Male (11) Female (22)
4. Public Programs (21)  
 Male (3) Female (18)

## American Indian Student Enrollment



Fall Semester





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## GOVERNORS INTERSTATE INDIAN COUNCIL TO HOLD 2009 ANNUAL MEETING IN FLAGSTAFF

"I'm very pleased that the GIIC awarded Arizona the next GIIC annual meeting as this is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the best of Indian Country here in Arizona. The opportunity to bring in officials from other states that work on Indian issues is also a tremendous opportunity to network, share ideas and discuss solutions to issues that we all face in our respective states," according to Ken Poocha, Executive Director of the Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs.

### History

The Governor's Interstate Indian Council (GIIC) began in 1947 when Minnesota Governor Luther Youngdahl expressed concern about federal government involvement in Indian Affairs. As an alternative, he recommended that Native Americans in the state's work together to address common concerns.

In 1949, Governor Youngdahl invited other states with substantial Indian populations to send delegates to a meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota. At that meeting the delegates drafted guidelines to create an organization. During that same year, Governor Youngdahl presented his ideas to the National Governor's Conference (now the National Governor's Association). The organization concurred with his approach and passed a resolution requesting the new Governor's Interstate Indian Council be concerned with five major issues:

- \* Bringing about equitable settlement of Indian treaties
- \* Encouraging social and economic self-sufficiency
- \* Improving education and training opportunities for Indian people
- \* Encouraging Indian people to preserve, as individual, their best traditions, values and cultures
- \* Bringing about an early end to federal wardships and taking the federal government out of Indian affairs

The 1950 meeting brought about a resolution making the GIIC a permanent, official organization. GIIC has worked at the state level to promote cooperation between states, tribes and native people and to work toward solutions to their mutual problems.

GIIC is highly regarded by Indian people, state governments and by the US Congress. The Senate and House Committees on Indian Affairs rely on the GIIC input as do other Congressional committees and national associations.

### Mission

In 1993 the GIIC revised its Mission Statement to reflect its current goals of improving and promoting cooperation between the states and tribal governments. The mission of the Governor's Interstate Indian Council is to:

- \* Promote and enhance government to government relations between the tribes and states
- \* Respect and recognize the individual sovereignty of the tribes and the states
- \* Support the preservation of traditional Indian culture, language and values
- \* Encourage socioeconomic development aimed at tribal self-sufficiency

Annually the GIIC sponsors a General Assembly hosted by a different member state each year and conducts a general business meeting each spring. The agenda for the General Assembly includes a report highlighting current issues in each participating state, workshops and panels to discuss issues of mutual concerns and a general business meeting at which GIIC business is conducted.

Three voting delegates may be designated by the Governor to represent him or her at the conference. In order to vote the State must join as a member and pay dues. Other interested individuals may attend as non-voting members.

Arizona's Governor Napolitano has appointed 3 individuals to represent Arizona at the GIIC: Ken Poocha, Executive Director of Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs; Lucinda Hughes-Juan, ACIA Board Chair; and Cedric Kuwanin-vaya, ACIA Board Vice Chair.